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ALLEMAGNE

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Zeichen/Ref./Réf.	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°./Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°.
EPA-53880	02007587.5-2122-

Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire
Dowa Mining Co., Ltd.

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☐ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract ☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract: 1

EUROPÄISCHES PATENTAMT - EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE - OFFICE EUROPÉEN DES BREVETS - DEN HAAG - THE HAGUE - LA HAYE

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.

European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 00 7587

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 10, 31 August 1998 (1998-08-31) -& JP 10 121160 A (DOWA MINING CO LTD), 12 May 1998 (1998-05-12) * table * * abstract *	1,2	C22B9/04 C22B26/22 C22B19/16 C22B19/18 C22C23/00 C22C18/00
X	GB 569 472 A (ERNEST PRIESTLEY NEWTON) 25 May 1945 (1945-05-25) * claims; figure 1; page 2, lines 75 to 126 *	3	
A,D	WO 96 26297 A (MATERIALS RESEARCH CORP) 29 August 1996 (1996-08-29) * figure 1; table 1 *	1-7	
A	US 4 045 006 A (CHEREDNICHENKO VLADIMIR SEMENO ET AL) 30 August 1977 (1977-08-30) * figures; column 4, lines 47 to 68 *	1-7	

TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)

C22B
C22C

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
MUNICH	8 May 2003	Bjoerk, P

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
A : technological background
O : non-written disclosure
P : intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention
E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
D : document cited in the application
L : document cited for other reasons

& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO. EP 02 00 7587

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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08-05-2003

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